

## MONITORED SPECIES OF ALGAE, PLANTS AND ANIMALS AT OPAL CLIFFS

The following species of algae, plants, and animals are monitored at the Opal Cliffs site. Some of the monitored species are rare or absent at Opal Cliffs, but we list them on our data sheets for comparison with other sites surveyed. A few species that are not monitored, but are conspicuous and common at Opal Cliffs, are also listed. Sometimes similar species or genera are so difficult to distinguish in the field that they are counted together as one entry; we use “spp.” when all the species in one genus are counted together, and we use “/” to separate two species or genera that are counted together. Common names are given when available, but many species lack common names; in some cases we have made up descriptive common names. Species marked with an asterisk (\*) are currently being monitored at the Opal Cliffs site: **<sup>1</sup>counted as individuals in the 1/4m<sup>2</sup> quadrats, <sup>2</sup>counted as number of squares in the 1/4m<sup>2</sup> quadrats.** Note: “alga,” “plant,” and “animal” are singular nouns; “algae,” “plants,” and “animals” are plural nouns; and “algal,” “plant,” and “animal” are adjectives. **Do not use “algae” as a singular noun or an adjective.**

### GREEN ALGAE/FLOWERING PLANTS

\*<sup>2</sup>*Enteromorpha* spp./*Ulva* spp. - sea lettuces

\*<sup>2</sup>*Phyllospadix scouleri/torreyi* - surfgrasses

### BROWN ALGAE

\*<sup>1</sup>*Egregia menziesii* - feather-boa kelp

*Laminaria setchellii* - no common name

*Laminaria sinclarii* - slender oar kelp

*Macrocystis integrifolia* - northern giant kelp

### RED ALGAE

*Chondracanthus corymbifera/harveyana/spinosa* - turkish towel algae

\*<sup>2</sup>*Bossiella* spp./*Calliarthron* spp./*Corallina* spp. - upright coralline algae

\*<sup>2</sup>*Cryptopleura* spp. - leafy red algae

*Gastroclonium subarticulatum* - no common name

\*<sup>2</sup>*Gracilariopsis lemaneiformis* - vermicelli alga

*Mazzaella leptorhynchos* - no common name

\*<sup>2</sup>*Mazzaella flaccida/splendens* - iridescent algae

\*<sup>2</sup>*Plocamium* spp. - Christmas card alga

*Polysiphonia* spp. - red filamentous algae

*Porphyra* spp.- nori

*Porphyra pulchra/Smithora naiadum* - surfgrass nori (on leaves of surfgrass)

*Prionitis lanceolata* - no common name

*Sarcodiotheca guadichaudii* - spaghetti alga

### ENCRUSTING ALGAE

\*<sup>2</sup>Encrusting coralline algae - *Lithophyllum* spp./*Lithothamnion* spp. and others on rocks

\*<sup>2</sup>Tar-spot algae - *Mastocarpus* spp. (encrusting form)/*Petrospongium rugosum/Ralfsia* spp. and others

### SPONGES

*Axocelita/Microciona/Ophlitaspongia/Plocamia* - red sponges

\*<sup>2</sup>*Hymeniacidon* sp. - yellow introduced sponge

*Suberites ficus* - hard yellow sponge

### HYDROIDS

*Aglaophenia* spp. - ostrich-plume hydroid

## SEA ANEMONES

*Anthopleura artemisia* - moonglow anemone

\*<sup>2</sup>*Anthopleura elegantissima* - aggregating anemone

\*<sup>1</sup>*Anthopleura sola* - sunburst anemone

## WORMS

\*<sup>2</sup>*Phragmatopoma californica* - honeycomb tube worm

## LIMPETS

*Crepidula adunca* - slipper shell limpet (on olive snail shells occupied by hermit crabs)

*Kalypso* (formerly *Tectura*) *paleacea* - surfgrass limpet

\*<sup>2</sup>*Lottia* spp. (0.5-2.5 cm, on rocks) - limpets

## SNAILS

\*<sup>1</sup>*Tegula brunnea/funebris* - turban snails

## NUDIBRANCHS (SEA SLUGS)

*Hermissenda crassicornis* - hermissenda nudibranch

*Coryphella trilineata* - three-lined nudibranch

## OTHER MOLLUSCS

*Aplysia californica* - California brown sea hare

*Octopus* spp. - octopus

*Parapholas californica* - scaleside piddock (or boring clam)

*Protothaca staminea* - common littleneck clam

## CRABS

*Cancer antennarius* - rock crab

\*<sup>1</sup>*Pagurus* spp. - hermit crabs (in olive snail shells)

*Pugettia productus* - kelp crab

## SHRIMPS

\*<sup>1</sup>*Heptacarpus* spp. - broken-back shrimps

## SEA STARS

*Pisaster brevispinus* - pink sea star

*Asterina miniata* - bat star

## SEA URCHINS

\*<sup>1</sup>*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus* - purple sea urchin (juveniles are green)

## TUNICATES

*Aplidium californicum* - slippery slab tunicate

*Archidistoma psammion* - sand encrusted slab tunicate

*Distalpia occidentalis* - mushroom tunicate

*Ritterella aequalisiphonis* - sand encrusted mushroom tunicate

*Styela montereyensis* - stalked tunicate